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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/982,607	10/18/2001	Kishor Kumar Mistry	EP/3-21947/A/AC 546	8277

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PATENT DEPARTMENT
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EXAMINER

KILIMAN, LESZEK B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1773

DATE MAILED: 10/16/2003

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/982,607

Applicant(s)

MISTRY ET AL.

Examiner

leszek b kiliman

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. Claims 6 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

2. A broad range or limitation together with a narrow range or limitation that falls within the broad range or limitation (in the same claim) is considered indefinite, since the resulting claim does not clearly set forth the metes and bounds of the patent protection desired. Note the explanation given by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences in *Ex parte Wu*, 10 USPQ2d 2031, 2033 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1989), as to where broad language is followed by "such as" and then narrow language. The Board stated that this can render a claim indefinite by raising a question or doubt as to whether the feature introduced by such language is (a) merely exemplary of the remainder of the claim, and therefore not required, or (b) a required feature of the claims. Note also, for example, the decisions of *Ex parte Steigewald*, 131 USPQ 74 (Bd. App. 1961); *Ex parte Hall*, 83 USPQ 38 (Bd. App. 1948); and *Ex parte Hasche*, 86 USPQ 481 (Bd. App. 1949). In the present instance, claims 6 and 13 recites the broad recitation of alkyl esters of ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid, and the claim also recites alkyl esters of methacrylic acid which is the narrower statement of the range/limitation.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lykke'372 in view of Lim'311.

The applied Lykke'372 reference discloses a particulate composition comprising particles having a core within a shell, in which the core comprises a hydrophobic polymer. The applied Lykke'372 discloses a method to obtain such particles and a stable dispersion of such particles. See column 1, lines 20-45, column 2, lines 28-40, lines 50-67, column 3, lines 20-27, column 4, lines 35-43, column 5, lines 20-50, column 6, lines 10-59, column 7, lines 40-53, column 8, lines 1-20, column 8, lines 56-67, column 9, lines 58-67, column 10, lines 6-25, abstract.

The applied Lykke'372 does not specifically teach that the shell of the particles should be semi-permeable. However, the Lim'311 reference discloses that it is well known in the art to produce particles having semi permeable membranes. See abstract, column 1, lines 10-60, column 2, lines 62-68, column 4, lines 12-27.

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It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use teachings of Lim'311 and use a semi permeable membrane in the Lykke'372 invention since such would improve and optimize the delivery of the active substance.

Limitation of claim 2,3,4,5,8 see column 1, lines 20-45; Limitations of claim 6,7 see column 8, lines 56-67; limitation of claim 9, see column 4, lines 35-43; limitations of column 10-31,32-40 see column 2, lines 28-40, column 3, lines 20-26 (amphipatic stabilizer), column 5, lines 20-50, column 6, lines 10-60 (method steps), column 9, lines 58-67 (emulsifier), column 10 lines 5-25 (the IFC reactants).

The amendments and remark filed by applicants on July 14, 2003 have been fully considered. The claims, however, remain unpatentable in view of the new grounds of rejections.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to leszek b kiliman whose telephone number is 703-308-2373. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T, 6.30-5.00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, paul thibodeau can be reached on 703-308-2367. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-3080661.

lk

LESEK B. KILIMAN, PhD
Principal Examiner
